

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-8 and 10 are considered in the Office action.

The drawings have been objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). In particular, the Office action states that the drawings must show “concurrently display[ing] the status information . . . or the feature(s) [must] be canceled from the claim(s).”

Claims 1-8 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Hagiunda et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,182,225 (“Hagiunda”), and also under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Colbert et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,699,494 (“Colbert”).

Summary Of Applicants' Response

Applicants have amended claim 1 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention.

Reply to Drawing Objections

Applicants have amended claim 1, and respectfully submit that the drawing objection is moot. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

Reply to Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-8 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Hagiunda and also by Colbert.

Claim 1 recites a printing system including a network, a plurality of output printing devices coupled to the network, an application adapted to receive and display status information of the output printing devices, and a user interface in communication with the application, the user interface including a toolset selector having first and second positions, the user interface adapted to display a print job interface when the toolset selector is in the first position, and display an output printing device interface when the toolset selector is in the second position. Neither Hagiunda nor Colbert describe or suggest the claimed invention.

Hagiunda describes a network that includes local area network 100, printers 102, 105 and 109, personal computers 103 and 104, and file server 106. (Col. 10, line 60 through Col. 11, line 4-12; FIG. 1). Network management software (alternatively referred to as “NetSpot”) operates on personal computer 103, and is capable of displaying a device list window that lists the devices connected to the network. (Col. 14, lines 32-34; Col. 15, lines 15-18; Col. 16, lines 1-4; Col. 23, lines 12-14; Col. 79, lines 22-24; FIG. 15). The network management software may be operated either in “controller mode,” in which a user can change settings of network devices, such as network printers, or in “general user mode,” in which a user can view status information about network devices. (Col. 16, lines 24-25; Col. 19, lines 2-3;

In both controller mode and general user mode, the device list window provides a list of devices connected to the network, including icons that represent each

device. (Col. 23, lines 15-42; FIG. 15). A user may obtain status information about a network device by double-clicking the icon for the device to display a “device window.” (Col. 23, line 64 through Col. 24, line 4; Col. 37, lines 57-60; Col. 79, lines 58-61; FIG. 43). After the user double-clicks the icon, the user is prompted to enter a device password. (Col. 38, line 54 through Col. 39, line 19; FIG. 50). After the user enters a password, the device window is displayed, which includes a “status sheet” indicating status information about the selected device. (Col. 39, lines 21-54; FIG. 54).

Unlike the claimed invention, however, Hagiunda does not describe or suggest a printing system including an application adapted to receive and display status information of output printing devices, and a user interface in communication with the application, the user interface including a toolset selector having first and second positions, the user interface adapted to display a print job interface when the toolset selector is in the first position, and display an output printing device interface when the toolset selector is in the second position.

Colbert describes a host computer 11 connected to one or more printers 16 via local area network 21. (Col. 5, lines 34-56; FIG. 1). Printer 16 includes an operator panel 35 having one or more indicator lights and/or an alphanumeric display for providing information, such as status messages, to a human operator. (Col. 6, lines 17-20). Host 11 includes a software utility program that provides a user of host 11 with access to a replica 35' of operator panel 35. (Col. 6, lines 44-49). Replica 35' is presented on display 13 of host 11 in the form of a graphical user interface 53 that substantially mimics the visual appearance and externally apparent operating characteristics of printer operator panel 35. (Col. 6, lines 52-59; Col. 7, lines 42-43).

Unlike the claimed invention, however, Colbert does not describe or suggest a printing system including an application adapted to receive and display status information of output printing devices, and a user interface in communication with the application, the user interface including a toolset selector having first and second positions, the user interface adapted to display a print job interface when the toolset selector is in the first position, and display an output printing device interface when the toolset selector is in the second position.

Because neither Hagiunda nor Colbert describe or suggest the claimed invention, applicants respectfully request that the § 102(e) rejections of amended

independent claim 1 be withdrawn. Because all other claims depend from claim 1, applicants respectfully request that the § 102(e) rejections of claims 1-8 and 10 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, applicants submit that this application, including claims 1-8 and 10, is allowable. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner allow this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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